

GET THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE

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NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

Colorado Municipal League releases spring municipal election preview

March 8, 2023, Denver, Colo. – Seven municipalities will hold elections in April to elect city and town councilmembers. Voters in Colorado Springs, Denver, Durango, Glenwood Springs, Grand Junction and Ward will select their municipal leaders on April 4. Georgetown will hold its regular election on April 3. Aspen held its regular election on March 7.

Mountain Village voters go to the polls in June. Ridgway canceled its election, as permitted by law, citing a lack of competitive races.

Voters will also decide the fate of a handful of ballot questions:

Colorado Springs

Voters are being asked to extend the sales and use tax for trails, open space and parks, through 2045.

Denver

Denver has three questions on the ballot:

- to remove language concerning the Board of Adjustment from the charter and require that the procedures for appeals, variances and exceptions from the zoning code be addressed in city ordinance;
- to amend the charter to clarify city council's authority regarding zone districts and to require that zoning protests be initiated by Denver property owners; and
- to release the city-owned conservation easement on privately owned property known as the Park Hill Golf Course to allow for commercial and residential development.

Grand Junction

Voters will consider two questions:

- to increase the sales and use tax rate to finance construction of a community recreation center; and
- to amend the charter to increase the authorized lease term for certain city property to a non-profit organization offering adaptive outdoor recreation for people with disabilities.

Special elections

Littleton held a special election on March 7 to consider a citizen-initiated charter amendment regarding initiatives and referenda procedures that would adopt certain parts of the Municipal Election Code, reduce the percentage of signatures required for initiative and referendum petitions to 5 percent, and require that the city follow statutory timeframes for the timing of initiative and referendum elections. According to unofficial results, the measure has failed. Official results will be available after March 17.

On March 28, voters in Keystone will decide whether to incorporate as a town, and if incorporation is approved, whether to create a charter commission responsible for drafting a home rule charter that would be submitted to voters for consideration at a later date.

Walsenburg will conduct a recall election on May 16.

CML thanks the city and town clerks who assisted CML staff in compiling this election data.

CML is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established in 1923 and represents the interests of 270 cities and towns. For more information on the Colorado Municipal League, please visit www.cml.org or call 303-831-6411.

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